

**Communion Practice:** We believe that Christ is truly present in Holy Communion and, as we try to be faithful to Christ in the serving of this Sacrament, we ask that everyone be examined and instructed by the Pastor before receiving Holy Communion. All confirmed members of this parish, who have been regularly examined by the Pastor, are welcome to partake of the Holy Eucharist today. We also welcome the members who are in good standing of any of the parishes served by the Bishop, Pastors, and Deacons of The Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America (ELDoNA), and who have spoken to the Pastor prior to the service. Members of other Lutheran parishes or other denominations are kindly asked to refrain from communing today. The Pastor would be glad to make an appointment with anyone to discuss our teachings and/or our parish.

#### **A Prayer upon Entering Church**

Almighty, Ever-Living God, grant that I may gladly hear Thy Word and that all my worship may be acceptable unto Thee; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

#### **A Prayer before Communion**

Dear Savior, upon Thy gracious invitation I come to Thine Altar. Let me find favor in Thine eyes that I may approach Thy Table in true faith and receive the Sacrament to the salvation of my soul. Amen.

#### **A Prayer after Communion**

O Thou blessed Savior Jesus Christ, Who hast given Thyself to me in this holy Sacrament, keep me in Thy faith and favor; as Thou livest in me, let me also live in Thee. May Thy holy Body and Blood preserve me in the true faith unto everlasting life. Amen.

#### **A Prayer at the Close of the Service**

Grant, I beseech Thee, Almighty God, that the Word which I have heard this day may through Thy grace be so engrafted in my heart that I may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.



Invocavit Sunday  
February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026

**Sts. Peter & Paul Ev. Luth. Church, U.A.C.**  
A Parish Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America

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*“Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve.” St. Matthew 4:10*

## The Order of Divine Service

<b>The Ringing of the Bell</b>		
<b>The Hymn</b>	<i>“All Mankind Fell in Adam’s Fall”</i>	ASBH 49
<i>Stand</i>		
<b>Silent Prayer</b>	<i>(Prayers are located on back cover)</i>	ASBH p. 7
<b>The Invocation</b>		ASBH p. 7
<b>The Confession of Sins</b>	<i>(All may kneel)</i>	ASBH p. 8
<b>Versicles</b>		ASBH p. 8
<b>Confession and Absolution</b>		ASBH p. 8-9
<i>Stand (if kneeling)</i>		
<b>The Introit</b>	<i>(Congregation joins Pastor on Gloria Patri)</i>	ASBH p. 67
<b>The Kyrie</b>		ASBH p. 10
<b>The Salutation</b>		ASBH p. 13
<b>The Collect for the Day</b>		ASBH p. 67
<b>The Collect for the Season of Lent</b>		ASBH p. 66
<b>Collect Amen</b>		ASBH p. 14
<i>Sit</i>		
<b>The Epistle</b>		2 Corinthians 6:1-10
<b>The Gradual</b>		ASBH p. 67
<i>Stand</i>		
<b>The Sentence for the Season of Lent</b>		ASBH p. 41
<b>The Gospel</b>	<i>(Gospel Responses ASBH p. 16)</i>	St. Matthew 4:1-11
<b>The Creed</b>	<i>(All may bow at the words “And was made man.”)</i>	ASBH p. 17
<i>Sit</i>		
<b>The Hymn</b>	<i>“O Christ, Who Art the Light and Day”</i>	ASBH 20
<b>The Sermon</b>	<i>If Thou Art the Son of God</i>	
<i>Stand</i>		
<b>The Offertory</b>		ASBH p. 18-19
	<i>(An Alms Basin is located next to the bulletins for any Offerings)</i>	
<b>The General Prayer</b>		ASBH p. 19-20
<b>The Lord’s Prayer</b>		ASBH p. 20
<i>Sit</i>		
<b>The Hymn</b>	<i>“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”</i>	ASBH 22
<b>The Lavabo</b>	<i>(During Hymn)</i>	ASBH p. 21
<i>Stand</i>		
<b>The Exhortation</b>		ASBH p. 21
<b>The Preface</b>		ASBH p. 22
<b>The Proper Preface</b>		ASBH p. 23-27
<b>The Sanctus and Benedictus</b>		ASBH p. 27-28
<b>The Lord’s Prayer</b>		ASBH p. 29
<b>The Verba Domini</b>	<i>(All may bow when the Pastor genuflects)</i>	ASBH p. 30
<b>The Pax Domini</b>	<i>(All may bow and cross themselves)</i>	ASBH p. 31
<b>The Agnus Dei</b>	<i>(All may kneel)</i>	ASBH p. 31-32

<i>Sit</i>		
<b>The Distribution</b>	<i>(Prayers are located on back cover)</i>	
<b>The Hymn</b>	<i>“I Come, O Lord, to Thy Communion”</i>	INSERT
<i>Stand</i>		
<b>The Nunc Dimittis</b>		ASBH p. 33-35
<b>The Thanksgiving and Collect</b>		ASBH p. 35-36
<i>Sit</i>		
<b>The Hymn</b>	<i>“Lord, Keep Us in Thy Word and Work”</i>	INSERT
<i>Stand</i>		
<b>The Salutation</b>		ASBH p. 36
<b>The Benedicamus</b>		ASBH p. 37
<b>The Benediction</b>		ASBH p. 37
<b>The Triple Amen</b>	<i>(Second Setting)</i>	ASBH p. 38
<i>Sit</i>		

### Recitation of the Catechism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism (pages 19-21) & Questions 254-259 (Part III. The Lord’s Prayer. The Sixth Petition, pages 120-122).

### Announcements

*ASBH = Augustana Service Book and Hymnal: 2022 Supplement.*

**February 25<sup>th</sup>—Ember Wednesday in Lent**

**Epistle:** Exodus 24:12-18  
**Gospel:** St. Matthew 12:38-50

**February 27<sup>th</sup>—Ember Friday in Lent**

**Lesson:** Ezekiel 18:20-28  
**Gospel:** St. John 5:1-15

**February 28<sup>th</sup>—Ember Saturday in Lent**

**Lesson:** Deuteronomy 26:12-19  
**Epistle:** 1 Thessalonians 5:14-23

**March 1<sup>st</sup>—Reminiscere Sunday**

**Epistle:** 1 Thessalonians 4:1-7  
**Gospel:** St. Matthew 15:21-28

**In Our Prayers:**

- For all those who are sick or infirmed, especially, *Dan, Katie, Kelly, Vince Bost, Brandon Dennie, Rachel Epperson, Vito Gerardi, Graham Hardaway, Michelle Harris, Peggy Holder, Judy Horn, Glen Madden, Paul Meadows, Barbara Miller, Mike Miller, Rev. Mark Mueller, Jack Newton, Orlin Palm, Becky Phillips, Vishnu Ramsamy, Betty Ramsey, Rev. Eric Stefanski, Chuck Webber, Gerald Weerts, and Tammy Wilson.*
- For our bishop, the *Rt. Rev. James D. Heiser.*
- For the parishes served by our diocese, and those in our international fellowship, especially, *Faith Ev. Lutheran Church, Tualatin, OR.*
- That the Lord might send *Faithful Laborers* into His harvest.
- For *St. Ignatius Evangelical Lutheran Seminary* and our seminarians, *Duncan Geldenhuys* and *Jonathan Teo Zin Han.*
- For the moral and spiritual support of those involved with our mission in Knoxville, TN, *Bob, Barbara, and Bobby Eisold,* and *Deacon and Sherrill Smithey.*
- For those struggling with addiction, especially *Thomas Allred* and *John Monahan.*
- For all those who serve in the military.
- For those celebrating birthdays this week.
- For those celebrating an anniversary this week.
- For those traveling this week.

**Announcements****Daily Readings for Week after Invocavit Sunday**

	<b>Morning</b>	<b>Evening</b>
<b>Today</b>	Num. 9-10; Luke 22:24-32	Numbers 11-12; James 1:2-15
<b>Monday:</b>	Num. 13-14; Luke 9:28-62	Numbers 15-16; 3:5-13
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Num. 17-18; Luke 10:1-22	Numbers 19-20; 10:11-36
<b>Wed.:</b>	Num. 21-22; Luke 10:38—11:13	Numbers 23-24; 11:1-35
<b>Thursday:</b>	Num. 25-26; Luke 11:29-36	Numbers 27-28; 12:1-15
<b>Friday:</b>	Num. 29-30; Luke 11:37-54	Numbers 31-32; 13:1-25
<b>Saturday:</b>	Num. 33-34; Luke 12:1-34	Numbers 35-36; 13:26-33

**Praying the Psalter Daily in Matins and Vespers:**

	<b>Morning</b>	<b>Evening</b>
<b>Today:</b>	Psalms 32, 107	Psalms 16, 108-111
<b>Monday:</b>	Psalms 32, 112-115	Psalms 16, 116-118
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Psalms 68, 119:1-40	Psalms 68, 119:41-88
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Psalms 32, 119:89-128	Psalms 16, 119:129-176
<b>Thursday:</b>	Psalms 32, 120-125	Psalms 16, 126-132
<b>Friday:</b>	Psalms 32, 133-135	Psalms 16, 136-139
<b>Saturday:</b>	Psalms 32, 140-144	Psalms 16, 145-150

**Book of Concord Readings for the Week:**

**Monday:** The Augsburg Confession, XXIV.1-41  
**Tuesday:** The Augsburg Confession, XXV.1-13  
**Wednesday:** The Augsburg Confession, XXVI.1-20  
**Thursday:** The Augsburg Confession, XXVI.21-45  
**Friday:** The Augsburg Confession, XXVII.1-26

**Reciting the Catechism Daily:**

**Sunday:** The Ten Commandments  
**Monday:** The Apostles' Creed  
**Tuesday:** The Lord's Prayer  
**Wednesday:** Holy Baptism, The Office of the Keys and Confession  
**Thursday:** The Sacrament of the Altar  
**Friday:** How One Should Be Taught to Pray  
**Saturday:** The Table of Duties

**Hymns for the Week:**

**Morning:** ASBH 20—"O Christ, Who Art the Light and Day"

**Evening:** ASBH 22—“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

**Calendar for the Week after Invocavit Sunday**

**Today: Invocavit Sunday—Violet**

*Washington’s Birthday*

10:00 a.m. Divine Service and Bible Class in Simpsonville, SC

3:00 p.m. Divine Service in Augusta, GA

**Monday:** No Events Scheduled

**Tuesday: The Festival of St. Matthias, Apostle—Red**

6:00 p.m. Pastor Teaches Psalms Class

**Wednesday: The Ember Wednesday in Lent/Midweek Lenten**

**Vespers—Violet**

5 p.m. Vespers

6 p.m. Private confession

**Thursday:** 6:00 p.m. Pastor Teaches Psalms Class

**Friday: The Ember Friday in Lent—Violet**

**Saturday: The Ember Saturday in Lent—Violet**

Seminary Winter Quarter Ends

**Next Sunday: Reminiscere Sunday—Violet**

10:00 a.m. Divine Service and Bible Class

**Parish Meeting**

The next scheduled parish meeting is in two weeks on Sunday, March 8th after the Divine Service. As was mentioned at our last meeting, we will re-examine our budget to see if we are on track. Please make arrangements to be there. Non-members are welcome to attend in an observatory role.

**St. Ignatius of Antioch Evangelical Lutheran Seminary**

The Diocesan seminary will finish their last week of Winter Quarter this week. They will take a short break before beginning their Spring Quarter. Please keep the seminary and her students in your prayers.

**The Lutheran Herald**

The February issue of “The Lutheran Herald,” the devotional booklet of the ELDoNA, is now available. It can be found on Facebook at: <http://tinyurl.com/LutheranHerald> and on the diocesan website: [eldona.org](http://eldona.org). There are also printed copies in the back of the nave for your use and distribution.

**An Excerpt from Luther’s Writings**

“This Gospel is read today at the beginning of Lent in order to picture before Christians the example of Christ, that they may rightly observe Lent, which has become mere mockery: first, because no one can follow this example and fast forty days and nights as Christ did without eating any food. Christ rather followed the example of Moses, who fasted also forty days and nights, when he received the law of God on mount Sinai. Thus Christ also wished to fast when He was about to bring to us, and give expression to, the new law. In the second place, Lent has become mere mockery because our fasting is a perversion and an institution of man. For although Christ did fast forty days, yet there is no word of His that He requires us to do the same and fast as He did. Indeed He did many other things, which He wishes us not to do; but whatever He calls us to do or leave undone, we should see to it that we have His Word to support our actions.

“But the worst of all is that we have adopted and practiced fasting as a good work: not to bring our flesh into subjection; but, as a meritorious work before God, to atone for our sins and obtain grace. And it is this that has made our fasting a stench and so blasphemous and shameful, so that no drinking and eating, no gluttony and drunkenness, could have been as bad and foul. It would have been better had people been drunk day and night than to fast thus. Moreover, even if all had gone well and right, so that their fasting had been applied to the mortification of the flesh; but since it was not voluntary it was not left to each to do according to their own free will, but was compulsory by virtue of human commandment, and they did it unwillingly, it was all lost and to no purpose. I will not mention the many other evils as the consequences, as that pregnant mothers and their offspring, the sick and the weak, were thereby ruined, so that it might be called a fasting of Satan instead of a fasting unto holiness. Therefore we will carefully consider how this Gospel teaches us by the example of Christ what true fasting is.” *From Martin Luther’s Sermon for Invocavit.*

**To Read in Preparation for this week’s Festivals:**

**Today—Invocavit Sunday**

**Epistle:**

2 Corinthians 6:1-10

**Gospel:**

St. Matthew 4:1-11

**February 24<sup>th</sup>—The Festival of St. Matthias, Apostle**

**Epistle:**

Acts 1:15-26

**Gospel:**

St. Matthew 11:25-30

# 186. I Come, O Lord, to Thy Communion

Ich komm' zu deinem Abendmahl

Friedrich C. Heyder, 1710

Tr., Sts. 1-11, A. T. Bonnet, 1900; Sts. 12-21, composite

Ich sterbe täglich

Ms., Municipal Library

Leipzig, 1756

1. I come, O Lord, to Thy Com -  
 2. Grant that to this, Thy heav'n - ly  
 3. Be - cause in sin I have been  
 4. Grant that I curse as dead - ly

mun-ion, For hun - gry, thirs - ty is my soul;  
 ta - ble, I come in faith and worth - i - ly.  
 rov - ing, "Un - worth - y" is my right - ful name;  
 poi - son Un - to my soul, the whole of sin

Thou sat - is - fi'st the hosts of Zi - on, There -  
 My soul by grace do Thou en - a - ble To  
 Yet faith - ful Shep - herd, all sheep lov - ing, This  
 And, lest I come in con - dem - na - tion, Ex -

fore Thy good - ness I'll ex - tol.  
 think de - vot - ed - ly of Thee.  
 stray - ing lamb do Thou re - claim.  
 plore my life, with - out, with - in.

My Je - sus, let Thy Flesh and Blood Be

to my soul its great - est good.

5. Thy heart is filled with loving passion,  
 Thy longing burns most fervently  
 To gather sinners with compassion  
 Therefore, this sinner comes to Thee.

6. I am so weary and so laden  
 With sin, and come at Thy request.  
 By grace receive me, my heart gladden,  
 Refresh me as Thy welcome guest.

7. For Thou wilt find a heart that lowly  
 Repenting, falls before Thy feet,  
 And there bewails its sins, yet solely  
 Thy merit pleads e'en as 'tis meet.

8. Upon Thy Supper I'm bestowing  
 This name alone, "Love's Testament,"  
 For easy is it to be knowing  
 Thy love in this blessed Sacrament.

9. It is the best we can inherit;  
 It is faith's bond, its surest base.  
 It strengthens heart and mind and spirit,  
 The covenant of hope and grace.

10. This meal is, for my soul, sweet pasture,  
 The beggar's wealth, the weak man's pow'r.  
 'Tis Satan's dread, the angels' rapture;  
 It quickens in the dying hour.

[hymn continued on next page]

186. I Come, O Lord, to Thy Communion [cont.]

11. The weak-ened faith Thou dost em - pow - er, Thou  
 12. E'en as it cri - eth for its mo - ther A  
 13. Thou art my Doc - tor, I Thy pa - tient. Thou

sweet, ce - les - tial feast of love. Then art Thou  
 hung - ry child's de - sires are met. So dost Je -  
 art my Fa - ther, I, Thine heir. Thou art my

tru - ly my strong tow - er When weak-ness me from  
 sus as my dear Bro - ther Feed - eth me so I  
 ark, to heav'n I sail it, Thro' wind and wave, Thou

Christ would move.  
 do not fret. My Je - sus, let Thy Flesh and  
 bring'st me there.

Blood Be to my soul its great - est good. A - men.

14. The Body Thou for me hast given,  
 The Blood which Thou hast shed for me.  
 Gives my soul strength and life and heaven,  
 And to my heart grants rest and peace.

18. Thou wilt one day my body quicken  
 And bring me out of the dark grave.  
 Now me, the grave, can no more frighten  
 In Thee it is my resting place.

15. I am with Thee wholly united,  
 Thou dwell'st in me and I in Thee,  
 Now my soul weeps no more, distressed,  
 It laughs wholeheartedly in Thee.

19. My dead flesh will be resurrected,  
 E'en though the worms have destroyed it.  
 To life again will it be raised  
 And in my flesh I shall see Him.

16. Who is it who will now condemn me?  
 He who justifies me is here.  
 The flames of hell hold no fear for me,  
 With Jesus I to heav'n draw near.

20. Thus all life's pain will be discarded  
 As my heart tastes the greatest sweets.  
 By many griefs was I surrounded,  
 But through Jesus I find release.

17. If death should quickly come upon me,  
 Nonetheless will I be well-pleased,  
 For He who death did long since defeat,  
 To Him in faith my heart has cleaved.

21. Now my heart has become a dwelling  
 Of the Most Holy Trinity.  
 I stand with saints and angels, singing,  
 And live in joy eternally.

Festival of the Reformation

107. Lord, Keep Us in Thy Word and Work

Martin Luther, 1541

Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort

Justus Jonas, st. 4 and 5, 1544

"Geistliche Lieder"

Tr., Catherine Winkworth, 1863

Wittenburg, 1543

1. Lord, keep us in Thy Word and work, Re -  
 2. Lord Je - sus Christ, Thy pow'r make known, For  
 3. Thou Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Give  
 4. De - stroy their coun - sels, Lord our God, And

strain the mur - d'rous Pope and Turk,  
 Thou art Lord of lords a - lone;  
 one mind to Thy flock on earth,  
 smite them with an i - ron rod,

Who fain would tear from off Thy throne Christ  
 Shield Thy poor Chris - ten - dom, that we May  
 Stand by us in our fi - nal strife, And  
 And let them fall in - to the snare Which

Je - sus, Thy be - lov - ed Son.  
 ev - er - more sing praise to Thee.  
 lead us out of death to life.  
 for Thy Chris - tians they pre - pare. A - men.

5. So that at last they may perceive  
 That, Lord our God, Thou still dost live,  
 And dost deliver mightily  
 All those who put their trust in Thee.